



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| 10/699,121 | 10/31/2003 | Stefan Schneidewind | A36066 - 066340.0179 | 4997 |

21003 7590 11/17/2006

BAKER & BOTTS
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA
44TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10112-4498

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, TUNG X

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2829

DATE MAILED: 11/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/699,121 | Applicant(s) SCHNEIDEWIND ET AL. | |
| | Examiner Tung X. Nguyen | Art Unit 2829 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 August 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 10-21 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 31 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sato (u.s.p 6,124,725).

As to claim 1, Sato discloses in Figs. 1-4, a substrate (W of figure 1) is mounted on a chuck (11) and makes contact with contact needles (12A); wherein contact needle being connected to enable testing of electrical characteristics of circuit elements on the semiconductor substrate (W of figure 1); and mechanically accelerating the mounted semiconductor substrate together with the contacting contact needles; and measuring the electrical characteristics of the circuit elements during the mechanical acceleration of the mounted semiconductor substrate while it is in contact with the contact needles (X-Y-Z direction driving mechanism 24, col. 4, lines 1-20 and 50-55).

As to claims 2-3, Sato discloses in Figs. 1-4, wherein the substrate is subjected to acceleration, which is initially positive and is then negative down to the stationary state, wherein the acceleration comprising a linear acceleration (via 24 of figure 1).

As to claim 4, Sato discloses in Figs. 1-4, the linear acceleration takes place in a direction, which is parallel to the upper face of the substrate (via 24).

Art Unit: 2829

As to claim 5, Sato discloses in Figs 1-4, the linear acceleration take place in a direction, which is perpendicular to the upper face of the substrate (12, and 24 of figure 1).

As to claim 6, Sato discloses in Figs. 1-4, the acceleration represents a rotary acceleration (θ direction figure 1, col. 8, lines 65-68) with respect to a rotation axis which is perpendicular to an upper face of the substrate (W of figure 1)

As to claim 7, Sato discloses in Figs. 1-4, the acceleration is repeated (via 24 and repeated after testing DUT).

As to claim 8, Sato discloses the substrate (W of figure 1) is caused to oscillate mechanically (figs 1-4).

As to claim 9, Sato discloses in Fig. 7, the acceleration is produced by a mechanical blow (57, 44).

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 8/12/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

As to the claim 1, in re pages 6-7, Applicant argues that Sato does not teach accelerating a substrate while in contact with the contact needles and/or measuring the electrical characteristics of an accelerating substrate.

In response, the examiner respectfully disagrees with Applicant about the issue for the following reasons:

In response, as to claim 11, the examiner points out that Sato teaches in Fig. 1, the main chuck 11 which is movable in X, Y, Z and θ directions, wherein the wafer (DUT

Art Unit: 2829

substrate) was put thereon to test or determine whether the electric characteristics of each chip are good or bad (col. 4, lines 52-55). Therefore, the wafer (DUT substrate) can accelerate with the main chuck (11) to contact with contact needles (12, 12A) for testing the device under test (DUT substrate) to measuring and determine whether the electric characteristics of each chip are good or bad (col. 4, lines 52-55).

Conclusion

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tung X. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1967. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am-5:00pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ha T. Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-1678. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2829

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



TN
11/08/06

HA TRAN NGUYEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER